BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

"THE UNION, THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS."

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Latest News by Telegraph

TO THE

BALTIMORE CLIPPER.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

STARTLING DEVELOPMENTS

How the Democrats Propose to Carry the Elections.

DEMOCRATIC FRAUDS VENTILATED

Soldiers Letters Opened and their Votes Changed.

Arrest of New York Agents in Baltimore.

They are Committed to Prison.

They are to be Tried by Military Commission.

THE LATEST FROM MISSOURI.

Price Driven Below Fort Scott

Capture of 1,500 Prisoners, Ten Pieces Artillery and Two Generals.

ETC. ETC. ETC.

The War in Missouri.

St. Louis, Oct. 27—The Democrat's dispatch from Leavenworth says: Price has been driven below Fort Scott, closely followed by our cavalry. We have captured a large number of prisoners including Gens. Marmaduke and Cabell and several pieces of artillery.

Gen. Rosecrans was at Little Santa Fee, twelve miles south of Kansas City, with infantry on Tuesday night.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

St. Louis, Oct. 27—The following has been received from an entirely reliable source. Our forces have been driving Price rapidly since Sunday. At last accounts he was 25 or 30 miles southeast of Fort Scott. His army is routed and dispersed. On Tuesday we had several fights with him between Mound City and Fort Scott, in all of which he was badly whipped, losing 1,500 prisoner and ten or twelve pieces of artillery. Among the prisoners is Major General Marmaduke, Brig. Gen. Cabell and several Colonels and other officers.

The enemy was again attacked yesterday morning, a short distance North of Fort Scott and driven pell mell in a southeasterly direction.

Price burned 200 wagons yesterday to prevent their being captured. Nothing is stated about the loss on either side, but there seems to be no doubt that Price's army is completely demoralized and scattered. The telegraph is working to Fort Scott, but nothing has been received beyond to-day's operations, except that our forces are still in vigorous pursuit.

LATER.

St. Louis, October 27th.—The rebels were chased all Sunday night, and constant fighting with their rear was kept up. At daylight they made a stand, and were handsomely whipped.

Later from Europe.

HALIFAX, Oct. 27.—The steamer Canada, from Queenstown on the 13th, has arrived. The Persia and Borussa had arrived out.

It was denied that the pirate Semmes had left Liverpool.

It was thought that a peace would be concluded at the Vienna Conference.

The Liverpool Cotton market closed quiet. Breadstuffs quiet. Provisions dull. Produce quiet, but steady. Petroleum closed quiet at 1s. 10d.@1s. 11d. for crude.

Getting Rid of the Guerillas.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Since the clearing away of the timber along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and the adoption of the plan of sending out rebel sympathizers on the trains as safety guards, not an accident has occurred and not a single guerilla seen on the line of the road.

Fire at Sea.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27.—The ship Moro Castle, from Liverpool, reports that on the morning of the 27th, she saw a bright light east south-east from the Highlands about forty miles, which was supposed to be a ship on fire.

The Gold Market.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27.—Gold closed at the afternoon board at 215. Subsequently it advanced, and at the night board closed at 216½@217.

Fire on the Lake.

SARNIA, C. W., Oct. 26.—At about six o'clock this afternoon the propeller Kenosha of the Grand Trunk Line, plying between Chicago and Sarnia, was discovered to be on fire while alongside the elevator, to save which and the neighboring buildings she was cut adrift, and is now floating down the river in full blaze. Nothing of value could be saved.

Startling Disclosure.

Democratic Fraud Upon the Soldiers—Their Letters Opened and the Votes Changed.

[Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune.]

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26—The Military Commission, Major-General Doubleday, President, was ordered to suspend the trial of the blockade-traders to-day, and proceed to Baltimore forthwith, to investigate and try a recently-discovered case of most astounding fraud and forgery connected with the New York State soldiers' votes.

The Commission will leave by the first train to-morrow morning.

The charges are in brief, substituting "McClellan" for "Lincoln" votes in the original envelopes submitted by the soldiers, and in forging names thereto.

One box, over three feet long, containing many thousand of these fraudulent votes, has been seized. Others are known to have been sent to New York.

The developments in this case promise to be of the most startling character.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

Washington, Oct. 26.—Astounding discoveries have been made by the Government of intended frauds in regard to soldiers' votes.

The grounds of the confidence of leading Democrats of being able to carry New York are now understood.

A systematic and wide-spread conspiracy has been brought to light carried on by agents here, at Baltimore, Harper's Ferry, and in the Army of the Potomac, under the immediate supervision and direction of the party in that State. Several of these agents have been arrested, and are now in jail, and others will be arrested as fast as proof can be collected, and proper provision can be made for their trial

Men now in custody have been actively engaged in this business for weeks, and, as one of the parties involved declares, forged bal lots of this kind have been forwarded in dry goods' boxes full to New York and Albany.

Judge Holt, the Judge Advocate General, has had the papers laid before him, and has prepared a brief report on the subject. He pronounces the crime thus committed to be one of the most serious character, and it will be dealt with as such by the Government.

A Military Commission has already been ordered, and will meet to-morrow morning in Baltimore, under the Presidency of General Doubleday, for the trial of two of the leading actors in this conspiracy, who are known to have been in direct and constant communication with leading members of the party.

The testimony in their cases, which I have seen and read, is full, direct and conclusive. It will leave not the slightest room for doubt that a gigantic conspiracy has been at work for months in maturing and executing a plan for defrauding the soldiers of their votes, and for overwhelming the suffrage of citizens at home, by the forged votes of thousands and tens of thousands of soldiers who have fallen in battle or died in the hospitals, or who have never existed. In some cases sealed envelopes containing "Lincoln" ballots have been opened, and "McClellan" ballots have been substituted, but the main reliance of the conspirators has been in the forgery of signatures of pretended soldiers to papers transmitting "McClellan and Seymour" votes.

The court-martial which meets to-morrow for the purpose of trying the parties already arrested, will make short work of the case, and the Government will not hesitate to carry into effect whatever sentence they may pronounce.

Other parties implicated will be sent before them as rapidly as possible, and all the agents in the affair are under the vigilant surveillance of the Government.

You must not be surprised if these disclosures and arrests should touch some persons high in political authority.

Among other things discovered in this city was the headquarters of a set of gentlemen busily engaged in filling up commissions of agents, signed in blank, and some of the parties involved themselves hold commissions.

ARREST OF A NEW YORK STATE AGENT.

Washington, October 27—The New York State Agent in this city was arrested to-day and his office closed.

THE NEW YORK ELECTION FRAUD.

Albany, Oct. 27.—The following dispatch addressed to the Executive Department here, was received this afternoon:

Baltimore, Oct. 27.—Moses J. Ferry, State Agent at Baltimore, Edward Donahoe, Jr., of Albany, Peter Kirby, of Lewis county, and Dr. Jones, of New York city, voting agents, have been arrested by the Provost Marshal, who also closed the New York State Agency.

(Signed) STEPHEN MAXSON,
Surgeon in charge.

Governor Seymour is in Buffalo, and the telegram has been forwarded to him.

Markets.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27.—Cotton is steady at $1.23@1.25. Flour has advanced 10@15 cts.; sales of 26,000 bbls. State $8 90@9.75; Ohio $10 45@12; Southern $10.75@14.25. Wheat has advanced 3@4 cents—sales of 7,000 bushels Chicago Spring at $2.12@2.13; Western $2 28@2.30. Corn unsettled; sales of 32,000 bushels mixed at $1.62. Beef is steady. Pork firm; sales of 10,000 bbls. Meas at $41@43 25. Lard quiet; sales of 1,800 bbls. at 20@22½ cts. Whiskey is dull at $1.72@$1.74. Sugar is steady—Muscovado 17½@20 cents. Naval Stores quiet. Petroleum dull; sales 14,000 bbls. crude 45@45½ cts. Freights dull.

The worm has extensively damaged the cotton crop in Arkansas. It has stripped the plant of all its leaves and young bowls. The crop will be from one-fourth to one half an average; nevertheless, the area planted is so large that the planters will make money.

Gen. J. H. H. Ward, who was sent on from New York, as a stump commissioner to canvass his old division at the front, was refused a pass to City Point, on the ground that electioneering in the army is prohibited.

Sheridan's Department.

A Letter from the President to General Sheridan.

Last evening Assistant Secretary C. A. Dana arrived here direct from Washington, bringing an autograph letter from President Lincoln to General Sheridan, thanking him and his gallant army for their recent victories

The following is a copy of the letter, which was read to day in front of every regiment in the command:

Executive Mansion, Washington, Oct. 22, 1864.—Major-General Sheridan:—With great pleasure I tender to you and your brave army the thanks of the nation and my own personal admiration and gratitude for the month's operations in the Shenandoah valley, and especially for the splendid work of October 19.

Your obedient servant,
ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

COLONEL TOLLES.

I am happy to state that Colonel Tolles, Chief Quartermaster of the department, who was wounded by guerillas a few weeks ago, is recovering and has been removed to Winchester, *en route* for his home in New Jersey. He was in a house within the Rebel lines during the battle of the 19th.

PROMOTIONS

Mr. Dana, in addition to the President's letter, brought a number of promotions for some of the officers of this army, among which are the following:—Brigadier-Generals Custer and Merritt, of the cavalry corps, are raised brevet Major Generals of Volunteers; Brigadier General Grover, of the 19th Corps, has also received a similar promotion.

Colonel Duval, who led the gallant charge made by the 2d Division of Crook's Corps at the battle of the Opequan, is promoted to a brevet brigadier generalship, as is also Col. Powell, commanding Averill's old division. The late Colonel C. R. Lowell, commanding the regular cavalry brigade, was to have been similarly honored; but he fell while gallantly leading his men in the battle of the 19th.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION

The following is the official vote, as deposited with the Executive of the State, on the Constitution, from Baltimore city and the several counties of the State:

Counties.	For.	Against.
Allegany county	1,829	964
Anne Arundel	254	1,350
Baltimore city	9,779	2,053
Baltimore county	2,001	1,859
Carroll	1,567	1,609
Caroline	451	423
Calvert	57	631
Cecil	1,611	1,611
Charles	13	578
Dorchester	419	1,156
Frederick	3,108	1,910
Harford	1,084	1,651
Howard	462	263
Kent	250	1,236
Montgomery	421	1,357
Prince George's	149	1,291
Queen Anne's	230	1,077
Somerset	464	2,066
St. Mary's	59	1,058
Talbot	190	1,020
Washington	2,411	985
Worcester	486	1,666
Total	27,511	29,535

We have not been able to obtain the soldiers' vote *officially*, but from information received believe they give about 2,500 majority for the Constitution.

THE VERMONT RAIDERS.

MONTREAL, October 26th.—Several depositions were taken at St. Johns relative to the recent Vermont Bank robbery, and others were taken to-day. The prisoners have all been easily identified, and if they are committed, the trial will probably be transferred to Montreal.

Washington, Oct'r 26—Advices received here indicate that the Canadian authorities will promptly respond to all fair demands made by our Government in reference to the rebel robbers who committed the outrage at St. Albans.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. Dennison, the Democratic Commissioner from Connecticut, has arrived at Washington from the Army of the Potomac, where he was placed under arrest on charge of making speeches in camp in violation of orders. Gen. Grant, it is stated, had the whole matter investigated, and not deeming the grounds sufficient, promptly ordered his release.

Since Admiral Porter has taken command of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron he has made a number of important changes. The squadron has been organized into six divisions. The James River flotilla is now the 5th division, with Commander G. T. Nichols as the division commander.—The double-ender Mendota is the flag ship.

The trial of Major Weeks for the homicide of a sentry at Cedar Keys, was to commence at Key West on the 1st prox. Mr. Weeks, the Major's brother and wife, and two legal gentlemen had arrived from New York, the two latter to watch the proceedings of the court martial.

In a recent speech at Jacksonville, Ill., Governor Yates said that he might safely say, from some articles which he had been permitted to read, officially, that Richmond would be in our possession before the 8th of November.

In 1810 Judge Taney was so feeble that a gentleman, who had a law suit, refused to give it to him for fear he would die before the case was tried. This was fifty-four years before the great jurist died.

Fifteen thousand dollars worth of lace was sold by a retail dry goods house in New York, on the most "panicky" day of the season.

"Nobody ever lost anything by love," said a sage looking person. "That's not true," said a young lady who heard the remark, "for I once lost three night's sleep."

Great as you may be, the cradle was your world once, and ever it the only horizon you beheld bent the heaven of a mother's eye, as you rocked in that little bark of love.

The Mobile Register—a leading Confederate organ—says of the Chicago Convention: "The platform is quite as good as could have been expected."

If you want to have a man your friend, never incur the ill will of his wife. Public opinion in a great measure depends on the average prejudices of womankind.

It is said that upwards of nine hundred women are going out to India to be employed on various telegraphic lines of communication.

Ezra Wheeler, Democratic member of Congress from Wisconsin, has declared his intention to support Lincoln and Johnson.

The Patrie says that Prussia has given its adhesion to the French policy on the Roman question.

The dress-coat, with vest and neck-tie, is an innovation successfully accomplished by fashionables of the crinoline persuasion.

In Canada, butter is ten to twelve cents per pound, and flour $3.65 to $5.00 per barrel.

UNION PRISONERS AT CHARLESTON.

Letter from an Imprisoned Officer—Dreadful Sufferings of our Men in the South—The Effect of the Shelling of Charleston—The Yellow Fever.

BEYOND PETERSBURG, October 24.—[Special Correspondence of the Philadelphia Press.]—Not often do I give way to a lugubrious humor. An army correspondent has no business to be lackadaisical in style, however sad or sullen he may feel. So many stories of suffering among our prisoners, languishing in rebel prison pens, have been published, that I dislike to trouble your readers with a fresh story of misery and torture and death All of these accounts are gathered by syllables, as they fall from the lips of the narrator, who has returned from the filthy, gloomy cage of confinement to freedom and friends. The past is so painful, they dislike to rescund every pang of agony endured, and perhaps, in the plenitude of their happiness, forget and forgive. Lieutenant Barnham has received a long letter from a field officer now in *durance* at Charleston, South Carolina, and under fire of our guns. It was written in the early part of this month, and smuggled through by an exchanged prisoner. This explains the language. All letters must be inspected before they are permitted to be carried to their address. Heretofore six lines was the full extent allowed any correspondence. I presume it has not since been changed. The appearance here of a letter written within a rebel prison, wherein every word bespeaks the writer's wrongs, and claims sympathy and credence, is so remarkable that I herewith furnish a brief extract. I must be excused from revealing any name, for the correspondent is now numbered among the sufferers who still languish in prison, and, as the lawyers say, "yet languishing doth live."

"The prisoners at Andersonville have been distributed among the chief cities and strong places of the Confederacy. Over five thousand have been brought here. A lieutenant coming from that place had been confined with the men as a sergeant. He told me over eight thousand died, out of less than thirty-five thousand, during the months of July and August. It is his opinion, or that of your humble servant, that there will not be one-fourth of those exchanged who will ever be able again to take the field as able bodied soldiers. Numbers of them wander about the camps, *raving maniacs*. The Sisters of Charity, who often call in to see us, said they visited our men as soon as they arrived here, and that the great majority were unable to walk or talk. Not a few were entirely naked—Some had the scurvy so bad that whole hundreds of maggots could be scraped from under their armpits and from their thighs. They had had it so long and were so weak they were unable to help themselves. The descriptions I have heard from several reliable sources are more horrible than one could imagine. All description is beggared. Surely those who have caused all this suffering will be dealt with according to their deserts—by the God over all—the ruler of the just and unjust. The sufferings of the officers are bad, and hard to be endured, but that of the men exceed theirs so much I have no heart to complain of ours. I was glad the Sisters of Charity and other kind hearted ladies of Charleston have supplied our naked men with clothing.

"About the shelling: Gen. Foster keeps up a continual shelling of the city. He has just opened a new battery, in which they say is a 200 pound Parrott gun, and this morning's papers state it did considerable damage, killing and wounding quite a number. Before they have not admitted the loss of over one or two a day, and they were generally said to be colored people. This looks ominous. We can see the fuse shells distinctly at night. It is beautiful to watch them from the time they rise above the horizon on the one side till they rush among the buildings or explode, or bursting high in the air, send their fragments down on friend and foe. The fragment of one passed through the roof and into the room directly over the one I occupy. It struck a bench on which were sitting some officers, splitting it from end to end, and then rolled off on to the floor, after wounding Lieut. ——— in the arm. What fortunate men! I understand the firing is done from Morris Island.

"Yellow fever has been prevalent in the city, but is now 'played out.' An officer died at the F. P. H. of it a few days ago. Another died this morning. Some say yellow fever was the cause, but I do not. We have all the liquor we can drink for $90 per gallon, or $2 per drink!"

How tenderly, how compassionately we care for the prisoners who fall into our hands by the fortunes of war! There may be some hollow-eyed, sunken cheeked, emaciated ones among them, but I have noticed scores of sleek, fat faced rascals lounging about hospitals in Baltimore and other cities, who apparently suffered from nothing but *ennui*. They have comfortable and commodious quarters, and are well fed; our men huddle together in the prison yards, and their food is only fit for swine. They are healthy, rosy, robust.—Beautifully-worked slippers dressed their feet, and they lolled about in dressing-gowns of gay and many colors. Our poor fellows are weak, the flesh gnawed from their bones by scurvy, their feet blistered and bare, their gaunt, bony ulcerated frames, fluttering in rags, or completely exposed to every element. Who would be a friend to the perpetrators of such barbarities inflicted upon afflicted helpless human nature? Who that learns these sufferers' story can plead aught in extenuation of rebels, and call the enemy "misguided brethren?" Who would owe allegiance to the cause allowing such atrocities, or be liegeman to the ruler requiring such inhumanity to man to satiate his vengeance or sustain his despotism. R. H. McB.

The number of mackerel imported into the district of Gloucester during the quarter ending September 30, 1864, was 19,024 barrels, valued at $164,511. Number imported during the present month to date, 26,023 barrels, valued at $280,230. Total, 45,047 barrels, valued at $424,741. There are mackerel which have been landed at Gloucester from American fishing vessels, and foreign vessels here in English vessels.—*Cape Ann Advertiser.*

The New York Journal of Commerce says the orders for imports, usually sent abroad previous to this date, have been very small, not only for dry goods, but also for nearly all descriptions of general merchandise. If this state of things continue there will be little demand for Foreign Exchange, for the country will have very few debts to pay in Europe.

The torpedo boat Stromboli is now at Jersey City, being fitted for service. The English newspapers ridicule the idea of the feasibility of this style of vessel. It is because they have not found out the secret of their method of working, and more so because in them they see the beginning of a wonderful revolution in naval warfare.

The Worcester Transcript says a prominent gentleman of that city intends presenting the unappointed aspirant for the Presidency in this coming election with a magnificent double turnout.

From the Army of the Potomac.

CITY POINT, VA., Oct. 24, 10 A. M.—[Special to the Philadelphia Inquirer.]—A ride along the lines of the Army of the Potomac yesterday brought convincing proof that, up to a late hour in the afternoon, no change whatever had taken place in the military situation. In the front of the Second Corps the picket firing was about as usual. In the morning, at three o'clock, the rebels opened a somewhat lively fire on our lines, by which we lost some few men killed and wounded, but the firing ceased without developing whatever object they had in view in opening it. In the front of the Second Division, Second Corps, I am informed our losses only average about three per day, and in the Third Division about five, and the front of the Second Corps being the only portion of our lines where picket firing is indulged in, our losses just now are very slight. It is gratifying to say, also, that the health of the army is exceedingly good, and the ranks are not being depleted to any appreciable extent by sickness.

At Gen. Gregg's headquarters, yesterday afternoon, everything was quiet. The rebel cavalry seem engaged in observation merely, never of late making any demonstration whatever against our lines.

Aside from the voting, there is little of interest transpiring in the Army of the Potomac just now. I might, by traversing the trenches with assiduity, occasionally procure an item of some interest, but of no particular importance.

Times are never dull with Gen. Butler. His position as Commissioner of Exchange brings him into such continual contact with the enemy that items are always abundant on his lines. He is much nearer Richmond, too, the besieged capital being visible to the extent of five spires from one point, and this proximity gives the correspondent on that line "peculiar advantages."

For the last three days and nights, since the removal of their friends from the scene, the rebels have been pouring a much increased fire into Dutch Gap, the discharges last night and the night before averaging about one every three minutes. Their fire is now principally from their mortar boats in the river, but as always heretofore, it is entirely ineffectual and almost harmless. Sometimes one of our men is killed or wounded, the first very rarely, but all the rebels can do they have never retarded the work an hour, and if their firing amuses them any we can well afford that they shall waste their ammunition in this manner.

RETURN OF GENERAL WARREN TO HIS COMMAND—REBEL OFFICERS AND PICKET SHOOTING.

Before Petersburg, October 24—[Special Correspondence of the Philadelphia Press.]—The Chaplains at last have been favored with a Sabbath after their own hearts. Not a rude sword disturbed the unusual calm settled over a hundred camps, from which upon less auspicious Sundays there was always arising a busy hum of preparation or recreation. Divine services were held in the various regiments, and for once religion got the better of politics.

General Warren has returned, and assumed command of the 5th Corps. General Crawford, who acted as commander during the absence of the corps commander proper, has resumed command of all his division. Immediately after arriving, General Warren rode along the line, inspecting the fortifications with the critical eye of an engineer.

Not a shot was exchanged during Sunday. Even when the bright stars came twinkling out, one by one, into their accustomed places in the blue firmament, not a picket discharged his piece. Far off to the right heavy guns were fired at long intervals, and from Dutch Gap the sonorous booming was heard along the entire front growing weaker, and fainter, and deeper as it followed the crooked line of works, till it crumbled into a thousand faint murmurs, and could scarcely be heard by those west of the Weldon road. It is well known how averse the rebel officers are to any comity between the pickets. Their instructions have invariably been to never neglect shooting a Yankee when offered an opportunity. The Richmond editors think these lucid intervals among skirmishers "unwarlike and ridiculous." They also are opposed to sparing a man.

Of late the rebels hold themselves aloof from all intercourse with our soldiers on guard. Suspected men underwent strict surveillance, and every conceivable precaution is taken to prevent desertions. Several attempts were made from our side to exchange papers, but they were firm in resisting any overtures which might lead to intimacy. They never adopt a new course of behavior, unless circumstances compel the alteration. In this instance I am at a loss what reason to ascribe for the change in their manners. Longstreet probably received a division or two from our front to enable him to "sup upon Sheridan's crowing." He met with poor success, and the secret of his withdrawing men from this locality has transpired.

Arrangements are being made to weed out the supernumeraries in this army—those who have no care on their minds, nor conquests to make. The object is to make them responsible for a musket and sixty rounds of cartridges, which they will be expected to use the first chance. It is astonishing how many men are absent from their regiments on detached service. They would almost make a division if gathered together.

GEN. SULLY'S INDIAN CAMPAIGN.—The Army and Navy Gazette of this week publishes a very lengthy report from Gen. Sully of his Northwest Indian campaign. He says he is perfectly satisfied of the impracticability of a road for emigrants over the route he took. All the country in the vicinity of the Little Missouri river is broken, and affords excellent protection in every part to small bands of Indians, to torment an emigrant train, and there is certainly no safety in travelling it until the Indians are exterminated.

The Santees, on Moose river, are in a starving condition, and went to give themselves up.

CAPTURE OF A VALUABLE PRIZE.—The Navy Department has received information of the capture, by the United States steamer Eolus, of the blockade runner Hope. She was built in England for Frazier, Trenholm & Co., by the celebrated builders, Jones, Quiggin & Co.; is a paddle wheel steamer, 280 feet long, 30 feet beam, has water-tight compartments, and draws 11 feet of water. She is a powerful steamer, and is reported to be one of the best and most costly vessels yet built for blockade running. She flew the rebel flag while in Cork harbor. She has a valuable assorted cargo on board.

Private letters from New Orleans say immense quantities of cotton have been sent into Mexico from Texas, where American and European speculators are buying it up at a comparatively small figure.

A beautiful Mexican shawl, owned by Mrs. Steever, was disposed of at raffle at Nashville last week, to meet the pecuniary necessities of that lady. It was *lost* from one of the Mexican cities in the late war.

Southern News.

[From the Richmond Whig, Oct'r 24.]

A NEW BATTERY AT THE BOULWARE HOUSE—OUR JAMES RIVER FLEET BOMBARDED.

The Boulware House, it will be remembered by our readers, is about a mile and three-quarters lower down the river, on the north side of the James, than Chaffin's Bluff, and about a half mile due north of the "Grave Yard." It is built upon a hill, which is a part of the ridge, which, running parallel with the river, culminates in Signal Hill.—Since the occupation of Battery Harrison the Yankees have made this a prominent picket station; and, on Wednesday, not to the surprise of those who had been watching their movements, unmasked a battery displaying five embrasures. Whether they have other similar works extending easterly, has not been yet ascertained, as far as our information goes. One of their guns is a 100 pound Parrott.

On Saturday morning, at about twenty minutes to seven, while a portion of our fleet was lying in the reach above and below the "Grave Yard," the Richmond, Capt. Maury, being lower down, this battery opened upon them. The gunboat Hampton, Captain Murdaugh, being nearest to Chaffin's, was soon under way and out of reach of its range before any damage was done. Several shells, however, passed over her. Her engineer presented a novel appearance, on a raw frosty morning, attired only in such garments as are unmentionable in the presence of ladies. The gunboat Drewry, Lieutenant Alexander commanding, was lying about five hundred yards further down stream, and was not, consequently, as fortunate, as one of the shells struck one of her gun carriages and exploded, wounding two of her men severely and giving three others slight "scratches." The gun was not dismounted, and the injury to the carriage was much slighter than under the circumstances might have been expected. The Drewry, we are gratified to learn, sustained no other injury.

The iron-clad Fredericksburg, Capt. Rootes, had her smoke-stack considerably perforated and five men wounded. The Richmond had no one hurt, though under heavy fire.

The Virginia, Commodore Mitchell's flagship, was equally fortunate.

Simultaneously with the opening of the Boulware House Battery, that at Signal Hill commenced firing, and the two combined hurled shot, shell and bolts in the most rapid succession, for the space of two hours, at the vessels above named. Our Battery Brooke (where located, the Yankees can ascertain from Butler's Observatory, without aid from us,) became engaged and gave them a specimen of Confederate projectiles and the accuracy of Confederate gunners. Our iron-clads also gave them an impromptu proof of what manner of guns Brooke contrives and our naval foundry turns out.

On Friday evening three Yankee officers, radiantly attired in blue and gilt, supposed to be Grant, Butler and Quartermaster General Meigs, accompanied by a full staff and any number of couriers and orderlies, rode along the river in front of the Boulware House, and in full view of several of the fleet, on a tour of observation. One of their suite came near the river and waved a paper for some minutes, thereby signifying a wish to exchange newspapers with us, but as no notice was taken of it by us he retired, and the whole party immediately galloped off at a gaily pace. We are decidedly inclined to the opinion that the firing from the two batteries, as already described, was to give these august military dignitaries a specimen of the artillery practice of the Armies of the Potomac and James.

We reached the Hampton before the bombardment ceased, but had no desire to go nearer, as we perfectly agree with those who entertain the opinion that shelling is never half so grand or attractive as when the observer is stationed about half a mile beyond its range. This is particularly the case when the shells are fifteen inches in diameter and the sound consequent upon their explosion correspondingly heavy.

FROM THE VALLEY.

Sheridan's official report of the recent engagement in the Valley is given in another column. If he had adhered strictly to the truth he would have acted inconsistently with his antecedents and in violation of the express orders of his masters, Lincoln and Stanton.

That in the first of the engagement Early routed his army and drove it four miles, we learn, from a number of resources deemed reliable, and we can explain the subsequent strange phenomenon of this routed Yankee army making a stand, and, in turn, causing him to fall back, only upon the hypothesis that the report which has reached us is true, viz: that our men, satisfied with the victory they had achieved, set to work to collect the immense deal of plunder discarded by the Yankees, and becoming disorganized and consequently demoralized, were in no condition successfully to resist an attack.

If this had been the case, surely we would not have been forced to record the loss of more guns.

Yesterday evening there was a current rumor of cheering news from the valley, but we are unable to trace it to a reliable source.—The War Department was without news from there or elsewhere.

Such evidence as the following, volunteered us by a veteran soldier, is not rare:

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Southern News.

[From the Richmond Whig, Oct'r 24.]

A NEW BATTERY AT THE BOULWARE HOUSE—OUR JAMES RIVER FLEET BOMBARDED.

The Boulware House, it will be remembered by our readers, is about a mile and three-quarters lower down the river, on the north side of the James, than Chaffin's Bluff, and about a half mile due north of the "Grave Yard." It is built upon a hill, which is a part of the ridge, which, running parallel with the river, culminates in Signal Hill.—Since the occupation of Battery Harrison the Yankees have made this a prominent picket station; and, on Wednesday, not to the surprise of those who had been watching their movements, unmasked a battery displaying five embrasures. Whether they have other similar works extending easterly, has not been yet ascertained, as far as our information goes. One of their guns is a 100 pound Parrott.

On Saturday morning, at about twenty minutes to seven, while a portion of our fleet was lying in the reach above and below the "Grave Yard," the Richmond, Capt. Maury, being lower down, this battery opened upon them. The gunboat Hampton, Captain Murdaugh, being nearest to Chaffin's, was soon under way and out of reach of its range before any damage was done. Several shells, however, passed over her. Her engineer presented a novel appearance, on a raw frosty morning, attired only in such garments as are unmentionable in the presence of ladies. The gunboat Drewry, Lieutenant Alexander commanding, was lying about five hundred yards further down stream, and was not, consequently, as fortunate, as one of the shells struck one of her gun carriages and exploded, wounding two of her men severely and giving three others slight "scratches." The gun was not dismounted, and the injury to the carriage was much slighter than under the circumstances might have been expected. The Drewry, we are gratified to learn, sustained no other injury.

The iron-clad Fredericksburg, Capt. Rootes, had her smoke-stack considerably perforated and five men wounded. The Richmond had no one hurt, though under heavy fire.

The Virginia, Commodore Mitchell's flagship, was equally fortunate.

Simultaneously with the opening of the Boulware House Battery, that at Signal Hill commenced firing, and the two combined hurled shot, shell and bolts in the most rapid succession, for the space of two hours, at the vessels above named. Our Battery Brooke (where located, the Yankees can ascertain from Butler's Observatory, without aid from us,) became engaged and gave them a specimen of Confederate projectiles and the accuracy of Confederate gunners. Our iron-clads also gave them an impromptu proof of what manner of guns Brooke contrives and our naval foundry turns out.

On Friday evening three Yankee officers, radiantly attired in blue and gilt, supposed to be Grant, Butler and Quartermaster General Meigs, accompanied by a full staff and any number of couriers and orderlies, rode along the river in front of the Boulware House, and in full view of several of the fleet, on a tour of observation. One of their suite came near the river and waved a paper for some minutes, thereby signifying a wish to exchange newspapers with us, but as no notice was taken of it by us he retired, and the whole party immediately galloped off at a gaily pace. We are decidedly inclined to the opinion that the firing from the two batteries, as already described, was to give these august military dignitaries a specimen of the artillery practice of the Armies of the Potomac and James.

We reached the Hampton before the bombardment ceased, but had no desire to go nearer, as we perfectly agree with those who entertain the opinion that shelling is never half so grand or attractive as when the observer is stationed about half a mile beyond its range. This is particularly the case when the shells are fifteen inches in diameter and the sound consequent upon their explosion correspondingly heavy.

FROM THE VALLEY.

Sheridan's official report of the recent engagement in the Valley is given in another column. If he had adhered strictly to the truth he would have acted inconsistently with his antecedents and in violation of the express orders of his masters, Lincoln and Stanton.

That in the first of the engagement Early routed his army and drove it four miles, we learn, from a number of resources deemed reliable, and we can explain the subsequent strange phenomenon of this routed Yankee army making a stand, and, in turn, causing him to fall back, only upon the hypothesis that the report which has reached us is true, viz: that our men, satisfied with the victory they had achieved, set to work to collect the immense deal of plunder discarded by the Yankees, and becoming disorganized and consequently demoralized, were in no condition successfully to resist an attack.

If this had been the case, surely we would not have been forced to record the loss of more guns.

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